

Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities to honor adoptive families and to participate in efforts to find permanent homes for waiting children.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:38 a.m., November 1, 2007]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 2.

**Proclamation 8196—National American Indian Heritage Month, 2007**

*October 31, 2007*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

National American Indian Heritage Month is an opportunity to honor the many contributions of American Indians and Alaska Natives and to recognize the strong and living traditions of the first people to call our land home.

American Indians and Alaska Natives continue to shape our Nation by preserving the heritage of their ancestors and by contributing to the rich diversity that is our country's strength. Their dedicated efforts to honor their proud heritage have helped others gain a deeper understanding of the vibrant and ancient customs of the Native American community. We also express our gratitude to the American Indians and Alaska Natives who serve in our Nation's military and work to extend the blessings of liberty around the world.

My Administration is committed to supporting the American Indian and Alaska Native cultures. In June, I signed the "Native American Home Ownership Opportunity Act of 2007," which reauthorizes the Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program, guaranteeing loans for home improvements and ex-

panding home ownership for Native American families. Working with tribal governments, we will strive for greater security, healthier lifestyles, better schools, and new economic opportunities for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

During National American Indian Heritage Month, we underscore our commitment to working with tribes on a government-to-government basis and to supporting tribal sovereignty and self-determination. During this month, I also encourage Federal agencies to continue their work with tribal governments to ensure sound cooperation. Efforts such as on-line training programs will improve interagency collaboration in the Federal Indian Affairs community and help to strengthen relationships with tribes, building a brighter future for all our citizens.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush**, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2007 as National American Indian Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to commemorate this month with appropriate programs and activities.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:38 a.m., November 1, 2007]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 2.

**Proclamation 8197—National Family Caregivers Month, 2007**

*October 31, 2007*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

Each year during National Family Caregivers Month, we celebrate all those who dedicate themselves to caring for others and

recognize their efforts to comfort and improve the lives of their loved ones in need.

One of our Nation's defining values is compassion, and we must do our best to see that every citizen is treated with dignity and respect. Family caregivers demonstrate this compassion, often at great sacrifice, to assist with everyday activities for family members who are elderly, chronically ill, or disabled. This dedication contributes to a culture of caring and responsibility across our country.

My Administration remains committed to supporting family caregivers by enhancing their access to services, agencies, and other providers. Late last year, I signed "The Life-span Respite Care Act of 2006," which establishes a program to assist family caregivers in accessing affordable and high-quality respite care. The National Family Caregiver Support Program encourages cooperation among agencies and other organizations that support and work with the family caregivers. This program offers information, training, and counseling to help family caregivers assist their loved ones.

National Family Caregivers Month is a time to recognize family caregivers for their good hearts and tireless support. Their love and devotion exemplify the true spirit of America.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2007 as National Family Caregivers Month. I encourage all Americans to honor the selfless service of caregivers who support their loved ones in need.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:38 a.m., November 1, 2007]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on November 2.

## **Proclamation 8198—National Hospice Month, 2007**

*October 31, 2007*

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

One of America's greatest values is compassion, and our country is blessed by all those who dedicate themselves to caring for others. During National Hospice Month, we recognize the dedicated professionals and volunteers who provide love and comfort to those who are terminally ill.

Across our Nation, hospice physicians, nurses, counselors, and volunteers provide invaluable support that enables many of our citizens to spend their final days in comfort and dignity. By providing physical, psychological, and social assistance, hospice care workers help ensure their patients can spend valuable time with loved ones. Hospice caregivers also help by providing guidance and counseling to the families of those who are ill.

Our Nation is committed to helping ensure that citizens with terminal illness and their families receive the assistance they need. We believe in the dignity and worth of every person at every stage of life, and hospice care brings support and comfort to those in need.

Hospice care professionals and volunteers are answering a timeless call to love their neighbors as themselves. During National Hospice Month, we recognize these individuals for their strength and compassion. Their efforts make our country a more loving and caring place.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2007 as National Hospice Month. I encourage all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities. I also ask Americans to recognize our health care professionals and volunteers for their contributions to helping provide comfort and care to those facing terminal illness.